



United States Department of the Interior
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Fire Management Branch
National Interagency Fire Center
3833 South Development Avenue
Boise, Idaho 83705



November 21, 2007

To: Regional Director, Region 1, Portland, Oregon
From: Chief, Fire Management Branch, Boise, Idaho *Brian Smith*
Subject: Approval - Wautoma, Milepost 17, Upper Goose Fire Burned Area Emergency Response Plans and Bobcat Overlook Fire Burned Area Rehabilitation Plan

It is obvious that the refuge worked hard to put these plans together. An in-depth review of the plan was completed by Fire Management Branch staff and is attached. The following table details approvals by fire, treatment, and funding sourced based upon that review:

Project	Fund	Activity/Treatment	Requested	Approved
Bobcat Fire	ES	ES Plan development	\$32,400	\$32,400
Bobcat Fire	ES	Non-native Invasive Species Control	\$38,080	\$38,080
Bobcat Fire	ES	Cultural Resource Consultation	\$16,150	\$0
Bobcat Fire	ES	Native Seeding	\$170,196	\$0
Bobcat Fire	BAR	Native Seeding	\$0	\$170,196
Milepost 17 Fire	ES	ES Plan development	\$32,400	\$32,400
Milepost 17 Fire	ES	Heritage Resource Assessment	\$13,143	\$13,143
Milepost 17 Fire	ES	Non-native Invasive Species Control	\$180,046	\$180,046
Milepost 17 Fire	ES	Native Seeding	\$1,027,906	\$0
Milepost 17 Fire	BAR	Native Seeding	\$0	\$1,027,906
Overlook Fire	ES	Cultural Resource Assessment	\$11,550	\$11,550
Overlook Fire	ES	Law Enforcement - cultural resources	\$35,207	\$35,207
Overlook Fire	ES	Non-native Invasive Species Control	\$456,450	\$456,450
Overlook Fire	ES	Native Seeding	\$4,132,084	\$0
Overlook Fire	BAR	Effectiveness and Recovery Monitoring	\$47,538	\$47,538
Overlook Fire	BAR	Habitat Revegetation	\$420,313	\$420,313
Overlook Fire	BAR	Integrated Pest Management	\$12,845	\$12,845
Overlook Fire	BAR	Invasive Tree Control	\$208,024	\$208,024
Overlook Fire	BAR	Native Seed Collection	\$33,002	\$33,002
Overlook Fire	BAR	Native Seeding	\$0	\$4,132,084
Overlook Fire	BAR	Protective Fence Replacement	\$127,258	\$127,258
Overlook Fire	BAR	Cultural Resource Protection - LE	\$63,694	\$0
Upper Goose Fire	ES	ES Plan development	\$32,400	\$32,400
Upper Goose Fire	ES	Non-native Invasive Species Control	\$61,993	\$61,993

Upper Goose Fire	ES	Cultural Resource Consultation	\$22,519	\$0
Upper Goose Fire	ES	Native Seeding	\$248,088	\$0
Upper Goose Fire	BAR	Native Seeding	\$0	\$248,088
Wautoma Fire	ES	Drift/Silt Fence	\$137,495	\$137,495
Wautoma Fire	ES	Erosion Control Matting	\$459,330	\$459,330
Wautoma Fire	ES	ES Plan development	\$90,000	\$90,000
Wautoma Fire	ES	Heritage Resource Assessment	\$47,839	\$47,839
Wautoma Fire	ES	Native Seeding, Floodplain	\$58,815	\$58,815
Wautoma Fire	ES	Non-native Invasive Species Control	\$593,070	\$593,070
Wautoma Fire	ES	Stream Channel Stabilization - Elk Fencing	\$227,171	\$227,171
Wautoma Fire	ES	Stream Channel Stabilization - Log Dams	\$86,745	\$86,745
Wautoma Fire	ES	Stream Channel Stabilization - Rock Check Dams	\$135,690	\$135,690
Wautoma Fire	ES	Native Seeding	\$6,334,728	\$0
Wautoma Fire	BAR	Native Seeding	\$0	\$6,334,728
Subtotal	ES		\$14,778,191	\$2,697,424
Subtotal	BAR		\$815,978	\$12,794,382
Total	ES and BAR		\$15,594,169	\$15,491,806

The approved emergency stabilization treatments are fully funded and should be implemented immediately. The approved burned area rehabilitation treatments have been partially funded for a total of \$9,546,453 which you may use as most appropriate on the approved Overlook, Wautoma, and Milepost 17 burned area rehabilitation treatments. Funding for the Upper Goose and Bobcat burned area rehabilitation treatments was not approved. The funding of these treatments over proposed treatments of other Bureaus had high political scrutiny. We have been directed by the Department to provide immediate notification if we determine that we can not utilize all of the approved funding in FY08 in order to make funds available for other treatments. Please notify us immediately if you determine that you can not obligate all funding in FY08. The Branch will continue to pursue the remaining burned area rehabilitation funding for these treatments, but there is no guarantee that additional funding will be available in FY08 or FY09.

Several requested emergency stabilization treatment proposals did not meet established standards and were not approved based upon the findings in the attached review. These projects were shifted to Burned Area Rehabilitation and went through the interagency prioritization process within the Department to determine if they would be funded. Given the limited amount of funding available to the Department, and more than twice as many DOI proposed BAR plan requests than available funding, some of these treatments did not meet the level of priority within this process to enable funding in FY-2008. . In accordance with the Service Director's September 5, 2007 Emergency Stabilization Cost Containment Memorandum, if research or monitoring documentation is available demonstrating that these proposed treatments can prevent the establishment of invasive species or are significantly more effective in stabilizing soil than natural recovery, we will reconsider approving these treatments through emergency stabilization funding.

The Branch of Fire Management Staff has entered plan data into NFPORS. It is also important that when a treatment or activity is completed, those accomplishments are entered into NFPORS immediately in order to report GPRA accomplishment on time and release any unexpended funds for others projects.

Electronic versions of the approved plans including maps and photographs should be sent to this office as soon as possible. This memo will suffice as amending the plans to identify that Ecological Stabilization – Native Seeding specifications are a burned area rehabilitation treatment. If these plans need to be amended or a burned area rehabilitation plan is developed in the future, these changes should be incorporated into the plan at that time.

As a reminder, Annual Accomplishment Reports must be completed no later than the end of each fiscal year. These reports should document actual accomplishments, costs, and monitoring results, and should reside in field unit project files. For national office use, annual accomplishments are summarized and reported in the NFPORS Actual FY 20XX Accomplishment and Notes fields on the NFPORS treatment/activity form no later than the end of each fiscal year. The Final Accomplishment Report will report plan activities in sufficient detail to document all accomplishments, implementation costs and monitoring results. For this plan the Final Accomplishment Report must be completed no later than October 2010. An electronic copy of the Final Accomplishment Report is to be provided to the Branch of Fire Management in Boise, Idaho, and is posted on the Service's Emergency Stabilization and Burned Area Rehabilitation web site. Reporting requirements are contained in Chapter 11 of the Service Fire Management Handbook.

If you have questions or need additional information pertaining to this plan or post-wildfire recovery policy and process, please contact Bill Leenhouts – National Burned Area Emergency Response Coordinator - in this office at 208-387-5584.

Attachment: Review Results

cc:

Project Leader, Mid-Columbia National Wildlife Refuge Complex
Regional Fire Management Coordinator, Portland OR
Chief, Division of Natural Resources, Washington DC
National BAER Coordinator, Boise ID